

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 (original): A method of assessing the immune status of an individual comprising detecting the expression level of one or more genes expressed at different levels depending upon the rate of hematopoiesis or the distribution of hematopoietic cells along their maturation pathway in said individual.

Claims 2-91 (canceled).

Claim 92 (previously presented): The method of claim 1, wherein said one or more genes comprise a nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 52

Claim 93 (previously presented): The method of claim 1 wherein said expression level is detected by measuring the RNA level expressed by said one or more genes.

Claim 94 (currently amended): The method of claim ~~92~~93, further including isolating RNA from said patient prior to detecting said RNA level expressed by said one or more genes.

Claim 95 (currently amended): The method of claim ~~92~~93 wherein said RNA level is detected by PCR.

Claim 96 (currently amended): The method of claim ~~92~~93 wherein said RNA level is detected by hybridization.

Claim 97 (previously presented): The method of claim 93 wherein said RNA level is detected by hybridization to an oligonucleotide.

Claim 98 (previously presented): The method of claim 97 wherein said oligonucleotide comprises DNA, RNA, cDNA, PNA, genomic DNA, or synthetic oligonucleotides.